

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/633,584

Examiner

Eric B. Compton

Applicant(s)

WEST, TRENT

Art Unit

3726

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an After Final Amendment filed May 23, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 18-24 and 26-28.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date May 23, 2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Wolfson on June 9, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 27, has been amended as follows:

~~--The method of claim 1, A method of making a jewelry article which comprises: providing an annular ring made of a hard material consisting essentially of tungsten carbide, with the annular ring having at least one external facet; and grinding the at least one external facet to a predetermined shape to provide a pleasing appearance to the jewelry article, with the hard material being long wearing and virtually indestructible during use of the arts, wherein the hard material is formed by a single sintering step.--~~

Claim 29 has been canceled.

### Remarks

2. In the After Final Amendment dated May 23, 2005, Applicant's amended claim 1, to require a finger ring and amended claim 27, such that it was in independent form.

3. As discussed in the Final Office Action dated March 3, 2005, the Examiner addressed the invention of the finger ring in great detail, especially in considering the declaration of Trent West dated November 29, 2004, which provided evidence of commercial success with respect to finger rings only. Applicant's amendment makes the declaration now effective to claim 1.
4. However, the Examiner did not consider the single sintering step in any detail, especially with respect to newly submitted declaration of Debkumar Mukhopadhyay (which was not considered at this time). Thus, this issue would require further search and consideration to resolve and the Examiner would not have entered the After Final Amendment.
5. The Examiner contacted Jeffrey Wolfson and proposed either canceling claim 27 or amending it to depend from claim 1, in order to enter the After Final Amendment. Mr. Wolfson agreed to the proposal to do the latter. Thus, claim 27 is allowed based on its dependency on claim 1.
6. Claim 29 was canceled as being redundant on the limitations of claim 1.

#### ***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric B. Compton whose telephone number is (571) 272-4527. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter D. Vo can be reached on (571) 272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Eric B. Compton  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3726

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